

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /098 W

-----105860 240632Z /14

R 141030Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0293

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANTANANARIVO 0448

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOPN ECON FR MA US

SUB: POSSIBLE MALAGASY TURN TO US FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

PREDICTED BY AFRICAN PUBLICATION

REF: ANT 0317 (NOTAL)

1. ONLY MEANINGFUL COMMENT ON SUBJECT ARTICLE WAS MADE TO ME BY DIRECTOR OF FRENCH ECONOMIC AID PROGRAM TO MADAGASCAR. HE SAID THAT IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD, FOR VARIOUS REASONS AND INDEPENDENTLY OF EACH OTHER, OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN ANTANANARIVO, OR OF THE QUAI D'ORSAY, TEMPORARILY PUT THE BRAKES ON SOME ASPECTS OF FRENCH AID TO MADAGASCAR. THE MALAGASY HAD INTERPRETED THIS AS A FORM OF CONCERTED PRESSURE BY GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR COMPENSATION TO THE FRENCH BANKS WHOSE MALAGASY BRANCHES WERE NATIONALIZED IN 1975. AT THE SAME TIME, ONE OF THE BANKS HAD ALSO ADOPTED A MORE DEMANDING STANCE ON THE COMPENSATION ISSUE, FURTHER STRENGTHENING MALAGASY SUSPICIONS. REACTION WAS FROM MINISTER OF FINANCE, WHO WAS IN PARIS AT THE TIME AND ENCOURAGED PUBLICATION OF SUBJECT EDITORIAL IN "JEUNE AFRIQUE" (IMPLYING POSSIBLE MALAGASY TURN TO US IF FRANCE AND
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COMMUNIST COUNTRIES DID NOT SATISFY MALAGASY NEEDS FOR DEVELOPMENT AID), AS A FORM OF COUNTERPRESSURE ON FRANCE TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN NEGOTIATIONS ON COMPENSATION OF NATIONALIZED FRENCH PROPERTIES.BARRETT

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780373/aaaacjwq.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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TAGS: SOPN, ECON, EAID, FR, MA, US
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